

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: CO

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<u>- MEDIA ADVISORY -</u>

ROMNEY ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS TO TESTIFY ON CRITICAL NEED FOR OCEAN MANAGEMENT IN MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Environmental Affairs Secretary Stephen Pritchard will be joined today by Ellen Roy Herzfelder, former Secretary and now Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Romney, as well as other administration officials to deliver testimony relating to H. 2602 – an Act Relative to Ocean Management. The legislation would allow for proactive and effective management of ocean resources through the authorization of the Executive Office of Environmental Affairs (EOEA), in consultation with other state agencies, to develop an Ocean Plan to manage, develop and protect ocean resources.

With the rapid advent of science and technology, Massachusetts has been faced with an array of new, unanticipated ocean use proposals for wind farms, to extract offshore sand and gravel for beach renourishment, offshore aquaculture facilities, consideration of wave tidal energy projects, coastal desalination facilities, and proposals for offshore LNG terminals to help meet our growing energy demands. By providing the Commonwealth with the authority to develop an Ocean Plan, state agencies will be better equipped to more effectively and proactively manage for both the protection of and sustainable use of the state's public trust waters.

WHEN: Monday July 18, 2005, 1:00 p.m.

WHO: Stephen Pritchard, MA Environmental Affairs Secretary

Ellen Roy Herzfelder, Senior Policy Advisor to Governor Romney Susan Snow-Cotter, Director, MA Office of Coastal Zone Management

Paul Doidati, Director, MA Division of Marine Fisheries

WHERE: State House, Hearing Room A-1